

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING & NEIGHBORHOOD PROGRAMS

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Land Bank Commission Minutes

MEETING DATE: March 16, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 12:00p.m., by Chairman Leta Anthony via Webex.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

Leta Anthony

Karyn B. Coleman

Mark Leggett

Jeremy Hill

Ken Wade

Natalie James

Jennifer Herron

Kimberly Lee

Deniccia Bell

Tavonia Strickland

BOARD MEMBERS AND STAFF PRESENT:

Ruby E. Dean, Redevelopment Administrator

Shawn Overton, Staff Attorney

Director Virgil Miller, Jr.

Kevin D. Howard, Director HNP

DECLARATION OF QUORUM - Quorum

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made by Commissioner Leggett to adopt the agenda, seconded by Commissioners Bell & Strickland. 5 ayes 0 nays (1 abstain, 4 absent)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Commissioner Bell, seconded by Commissioner Strickland to approve the minutes. 5 ayes 0 nays (1 abstain, 4 absent)

Staff Reports by Redevelopment Administrator

Redevelopment Administrator stated that the Mayor and other key staff had a press conference at 11:00 a.m. regarding Public Safety. Central Arkansas Housing Corporation will have a ribbon cutting ceremony on March 17th at 10:00 a.m. All Commissioners are invited. The Housing and Neighborhood Division is still looking for volunteers for the upcoming NUSA (Neighborhood USA) Conference in May. The Mayor's State of the City address will be March 28th at Southwest High School. Staff also stated that this will be the last virtual meeting. Meetings will resume at the Willie Hinton Center beginning April 16, 2022.

Current balances are as follows: S35A946'18 - \$1,743.85; S35C273 - \$106,168.04. Total Land Bank Financial Report - **\$107,911.89**. There are currently 50 lots available in the Land Bank inventory. Motion made by Commissioner Bell to accept the financial report seconded by Commissioner Strickland **5** ayes **0** Nays **(1** abstain, 4 absent)

The Commissioners and staff discussed the fair housing language as it relates to affordable housing. A motion made by Commissioners Bell and Strickland to incorporate the Fair Housing language presented by Attorney Overton seconded by Commissioner Leggett 5 ayes 0 nays (1 abstain, 4 absent)

The language will read as follows:

The City of Little Rock is regulated by the Fair Housing Act in making decisions regarding the approval or denial of any application. The Fair Housing Act protects the following persons:

The Fair Housing Act, 42 U.S.C. 3601 et seq., prohibits discrimination by direct providers of housing, such as landlords and real estate companies as well as other entities, such as municipalities, banks or other lending institutions and homeowners insurance companies whose discriminatory practices make housing unavailable to persons because of:

- race or color
- religion
- sex
- national origin
- <u>familial status</u>, or
- disability.

The language will be included on the Land Bank transfer application, side lot application, and donation application.

Staff presented land bank donation application for property located on 3304 Whitfield, owner Roger Roberson. After questions pertaining to size and the location a motion was made by Commissioner Leggett to accept donation seconded by Commissioner Herron 5 ayes 0 nays (1 abstain, 4 absent)

Staff also presented a power point of properties purchased from 2018 – present. The presentation displayed the progress of the developments along with completion status.

A motion made by Commissioner Wade to have election of officers at the May meeting seconded by Commissioners Bell and Leggett. 5 ayes 0 nays (1 abstain, 4 absent)

CITIZENS COMMUNICATION - None

ADJOURN: Commissioner Herron made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Strickland. 5 ayes 0 nays (1 abstain, 4 abstain)

Meeting adjourned at 12:48 p.m.